



Suggestions on Using *The Disaster Handbook*

The Disaster Handbook is a valuable part of any community leader's library. From the moment you receive it, you can begin to use its contents to educate your community about disaster situations. Because such a large and comprehensive book may seem overwhelming at first, we have prepared some suggestions for its use. Many of the following ideas come from county extension agents in Florida who responded to a survey about last year's edition of *The Disaster Handbook*. The cost for these activities is minimal.

- Create a link on your organization's Web site to the *Disaster Handbook's* Web site.
- Photocopy the Chapter 2, *Disaster Preparation*, and/or the sections on the disasters that are more likely to affect your community. On the next page are four suggestions for packets that are each under 20 pages.
- Also have available in packets the sections on recovering from a disaster. Laminate the pages or enclose in plastic covers.
- Photocopy and send the Radio Spots in Chapter 19 to your local radio stations; or have someone actually record the spoken announcements and send the cassette tape to the radio stations.
- If your office produces a newsletter, include a regular column of preparedness and recovery tips from the Handbook.
- Begin a correspondence course that members of your community may participate in. The course can consist of sections of *The Disaster Handbook* mailed to participants with followup tests of the knowledge. Issue a certificate of completion either through the mail or at an informal ceremony.

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- Contact a local Spanish-language newspaper, radio station, or a Hispanic social, civic, or business organization to let them know of the availability of Spanish-language documents in *The Disaster Handbook*.

Suggested Packets for Distribution to Community

Disaster Preparation Packet

Section/Title	Number of Pages
2.5 Disaster Supplies Kit	7
2.8 Handling Stress	6
2.10 Guidelines for Emergency Household Pet Care	<u>3</u>
Total pages	16

Home Recovery Packet

Section/Title	Number of Pages
5.3 Returning Home After a Disaster	3
5.7 Priorities for Cleanup and Repair	2
5.19 Home Cleanup and Renovation—Floors	4
5.20 Home Cleanup and Renovation—Walls	3
5.35 Clearing Debris from Land	<u>2</u>
Total pages	14

Hurricane Packet

Section/Title	Number of Pages
7.4 Fact Sheet—Hurricanes	4
7.9 Keys to Hurricane Safety	8
7.10 Preparing for Severe Winds	1
7.12 Hurricane Winds and Your Home	2
7.13 Prior to the Hurricane—A Checklist	<u>2</u>
Total pages	17

Flood Packet

Section/Title	Number of Pages
9.4 Fact Sheet—Floods and Flash Floods	4
9.5 Flood Preparations	8
9.8 Building Dikes to Prevent Minor Surface Flooding	<u>2</u>
Total pages	14